

CONTENT AREA

Qualifying Life Event (QLE) – Student Status

ISSUE/QUESTION

An employee-member has a daughter who will become 19 on November 20th and will not be a full-time student until January.

1. Must the employee-member remove her daughter from her coverage on November 20th?
2. Does the employee-member have to wait until the next Open Enrollment to add her daughter back to her Saguario Program coverage or can the member-employee add her daughter when she becomes a full-time student in January?
3. The daughter is enrolling in a correspondence school. Does the type of school affect the daughter's eligibility?

ANSWERS

1. The employee-member must submit an Enrollment Change Form to remove her daughter from her coverage effective November 20th.
2. The employee-member does not have to wait until the next Open Enrollment to add her daughter back to her coverage. The employee-member may do so once the daughter becomes a full-time student provided the employee-member submits an Enrollment Change Form within 31 days of the date her daughter becomes a full-time student and provided the school is accredited.
3. The type of school (e.g., a correspondence) does not affect the daughter's eligibility. However, the school must be a post-secondary institution of learning and must be accredited.

Sources for determining whether a school is accredited include:

- Contacting the school
- Checking the school's website
- Checking the Council for Higher Education Accreditation website (www.chea.org)
- Checking the Distance Education and Training Council website (www.detc.org).

RATIONALE

Colleges and universities are accredited by non-governmental agencies that are themselves reviewed and evaluated by the U.S. Department of Education and/or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

AUTHORITY

United States Department of Treasury – Internal Revenue Service
Arizona Department of Administration Saguaro Program Policy

ISSUED

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